

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. RES. 278

Honoring the Hudson River School painters for their contributions to the  
United States.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2009

Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted the following  
resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## RESOLUTION

Honoring the Hudson River School painters for their  
contributions to the United States.

Whereas the Hudson River School was a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century  
American art movement led by a group of landscape  
painters, whose aesthetic vision was influenced by the ro-  
manticism movement;

Whereas the Hudson River School is considered the first  
school of American art;

Whereas the major Hudson River School painters included  
Thomas Cole, Frederic Edwin Church, Asher Brown  
Durand, Jasper Francis Cropsey, Sanford Robinson Gif-  
ford, Albert Bierstadt, John Frederick Kensett, George  
Inness, Worthington Whittredge, and Thomas Moran;

Whereas the Hudson River School paintings captured the striking landscape and sweeping natural beauty of the Hudson River Valley and the surrounding New York areas, including the Catskill, the Adirondack, and the White Mountains;

Whereas Hudson River School paintings served a vital role in cultivating American identity in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century and creating a sense of awe of the American landscape that endures to this day;

Whereas the Hudson River School painters influenced the environmental conservation movement and the establishment of the National Park System under President Theodore Roosevelt;

Whereas the Hudson River School's portrayal of the Hudson River Valley is a major source of tourism in the region;

Whereas 2009 marks the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the voyages of discovery made by Henry Hudson and Samuel de Champlain, recognizing the important role that the Hudson River and the Hudson Valley played in the development and growth of the United States;

Whereas the Hudson River School painters depicted the Hudson River Valley during the opening of the Erie Canal, which linked the Hudson River with the Great Lakes and created a main trade route from New York that fostered the city's central place in the American economy;

Whereas the Hudson River School painters celebrated the ideals of American democracy, individuality, and progress;

Whereas the Hudson River School painters illustrated themes such as nature, conservation, civility, unity, education, family, chivalry, and development;

Whereas the Hudson River School painters expressed the sense that every generation of Americans should seek to preserve the naturalness of the continent; and

Whereas the Hudson River School painters accentuated the cardinal values of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, which can assist contemporary Americans in the rebirth of American culture: Now, therefore, be it

- 1       *Resolved*, That the Senate recognizes and honors the
- 2 Hudson River School painters for their contributions to
- 3 the United States.

